

MQHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS, SHAKOPEE MN, DEC. 7, 2013

The president called the meeting to order at 12 noon. Roll call was taken showing all present or excused except for the District 3 director. Chad Horkey passed out and went through the treasurer's report. 2013 was a year quite similar to 2012. After the report, Dr. Wohlin moved for its acceptance. Greg Booth seconded the motion and it passed. When questioned about the 2014 budget, Chad reported he had no input from the Board and prepared the budget as he always did, based on the previous year. The president felt Chad should have some help in the budget preparation. Greg Booth, Mary Ebnet and Julie Bernick will be on a committee for the preparation of the 2015 budget.

The secretary Read the minutes of the last meeting. Jay Thesing felt that it should be noted that the state shows were moved from Fergus Falls because of poor attendance. The secretary responded that the initial reason for giving up our show dates at the Red Horse Ranch was that they fell on the Holy Week/Easter weekend and that MQHA had always moved the shows when they came up on that weekend. Mary Mensch questioned the use of the word "may" when referring to the state shows being at the Fairgrounds in 2016. The secretary responded that until we had confirmation of a contract with the Fairgrounds in 2016 the term "may be at the Fairgrounds" was correct. Rosemary Higgins asked Jay if we had confirmation of the 2016 dates and if we had put down a deposit. The answer was "not yet." Jay also responded that there were other reasons for moving the state shows from the Red Horse facility, mainly, poor attendance.

The establishment of the Northstar Breeder Nominated Futurity was discussed. The MSSA futurity is being phased out. There will no longer be a stallion auction and the classes for nominated entries will be paid out during the next few years. The Northstar Breeder Nominated Futurity will take its place. To be eligible an entry's sire or dam must be nominated annually for a fee of \$250. This is due by April 1. The entry must be declared by Sept. 1. All of a sire or dam's offspring become eligible in the year the sire or dam pay the \$250 fee. \$100 of the nomination fee will go the class entered. \$50 will be awarded to the original sire or dam nominator. The nomination fee includes one paid entry. The remaining \$150 will be prorated by entry based on the number of paid up entries showing. Eligible horses can be entered for \$100 up to Sept. 1. Entries will be shown concurrently with the corresponding Open/Non Pro classes. The entry fee is for either open or non/pro. Futurity Chairman Eric Petersen handed out information to the Board members and explained the rules. Bonnie commended the futurity committee for coming up with an idea that takes mares into consideration. Butch Wohlin asked if former stallion donors were being advised of this new futurity. The answer was that they would be. Butch then moved to accept the new North Star Breeders Nominated Futurity. Bob Springer seconded the motion and it passed.

The 2014 state shows were then discussed. They will be held at Winona on the July dates that formerly hosted the AQHA Regionals. The committee consists of: Jay Thesing, Gloria Enger, Chad Horkey, Julie Bernick, Paige Broekema, Tony Anderman, Bonnie Minor, Jay Barnett, Greg Booth, Lainie De Boer, Rosie Higgins. A committee meeting will be held soon.

Three MQHA members have declared they are interested in the National Director position that is opening up. They are: Greg Booth, Rosemary Higgins and Lainie DeBoer. Since the voting will take place at the general meeting, it was decided that these three should give their presentation

at the general meeting, rather than for the Board.

Mary Ebnet said there would be a PAC (Political Action Committee) meeting at the AQHA Convention in March. A silent auction will be held at the same time. That committee is looking for items for the auction and would like things that would reflect the locale of the donors. Ideas were discussed, particularly one that would highlight Minnesota's Mall of America. A suggestion was for a hotel stay near the Mall and tickets to something reflecting the art scene.

MQHA's future was next on the agenda. Jay passed out charts showing how Board members had ranked several items of importance. Maintaining our membership was number one on the chart. Bonnie felt that membership appeal determines the size of an organization and that is was important for the organization to offer something to its members. Julie Bernick stated that breeders and exhibitors have to belong to AQHA, but how can we make them belong to their affiliates also. Mary Mensch said that some organizations require you to belong to its local affiliate also. Kelvin Childers made some good points. He said that the Minnesota national directors should be driving members to the top organization, from the bottom up, not the other way around. Kelvin felt that to increase communication, which was also on the chart of important things, MQHA should consider a strategic planning session in which all directors would list our strengths and weaknesses. We could do a membership survey to find out what our members need and want from their association. A committee to work on this was set up with Terri Shaleen as head, other members being Gloria Enger, Vickie Kettlewell, Nancy Klaus, Jan Madden, Jay Thesing. Lainie Deboer had another suggestion, that of holding a show summit, inviting members of other breed organizations to discuss and understand our mutual needs. More discussion ensued but no motions were made. All agreed that our Newsletter was a vital part of our association.

The up-coming Awards Banquet at the Lakeville Holiday Inn on January 25 was talked about. Bonnie had a print-out of the activities which will fill out the day and night. A motion was made to give a \$30 Banquet ticket to each of the discount businesses supporting MQHA. Todd Flatness made the motion and it passed. It was also decided that we need a committee to check on our discount businesses as to: are they are renewing their commitments and are they are being utilized. They are all getting the monthly Newsletter. Terry Shaleen and Bonnie Minor will take charge of this committee.

As for 2014 committee heads, there will be a New Communications group looking into such things as facebook, twitter etc.. Jay is the chairman with help from Vickie Kettlewell, Greg Booth, Tony Anderman and Carah Pearson. Butch Wohlin will continue as head of the Hall Of Fame committee. Recreational Riding will continue with Midge Mulcahy and Scholarships with Gloria Enger. Laurie Schommer will continue to head the 4-H Boot Camp. Darleen Gargano and Mary Mensch will continue to head the MN Horse Expo involvement. The president asked Vickie and Greg to consider heading a Trail Ride committee. The Nominating Committee will consist of Board members: Dennis Freitag, Todd Flatness and Mark Baus. Non-Board member is Tony Anderman with two others to be selected.

Todd Flatness made a motion to adjourn. Rosemary Higgins seconded and it passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Enger